

STATE OF COLORADO

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Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor

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EXECUTIVE ORDER

Activating the State Emergency Operation Plan and the National Guard During the Democratic National Convention

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to Article IV, sections 2 and 5 of the Colorado Constitution and C.R.S. § 28-3-104, I, Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order activating the State Emergency Operation Plan and activating certain elements of the Colorado National Guard during the upcoming Democratic National Convention.

I. Background and Need

The Democratic National Convention ("DNC") will take place in Denver, Colorado from August 22, 2008 through August 29, 2008. During that time, the Denver metro area will host tens of thousands of dignitaries, delegates, and visitors from across the United States. The United States Secretary of Homeland Security has designated the DNC a "National Special Security Event." This designation has allowed the United States Secretary of Defense to authorize use of federal funds for security-related purposes during the DNC, including funding the activation of Colorado National Guard personnel.

To ensure the safety and security of Colorado citizens and visitors during the DNC and to provide support and coordination to law enforcement, I am ordering the activation of certain elements of the Colorado National Guard. In addition, in order to maximize preparedness for this event, I am activating the State's Emergency Operation Plan.

II. Declarations

- A. The State Emergency Operations Plan ("Plan") is hereby activated. All State departments and agencies shall take whatever actions may be required and requested by the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Public Safety and the delegated State Incident Commander for the DNC within the Plan, including provision of appropriate staff and equipment as necessary.

- B. Pursuant to C.R.S. § 28-3-104, as commander-in-chief of military forces, I hereby employ and call to duty under the provisions of 32 U.S.C. § 502(f) certain elements of the Colorado National Guard as may be necessary to protect life and property and to enforce Colorado law. This Order, however, does not confer peace officer status upon the activated members of the Colorado National Guard. I delegate command authority to the Adjutant General of the Colorado Department of Military. I order the Adjutant General of the Colorado Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Public Safety, and the delegated State Incident Commander for the DNC to coordinate activities among their respective agencies as necessary to execute the directives contained in this Executive Order. The activation of the Colorado National Guard ordered herein shall be limited to the authority and funding available pursuant to 32 U.S.C. § 502(f), and shall not be paid for with State funds.
- C. The Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Public Safety and the and the delegated State Incident Commander for the DNC are hereby authorized and directed to coordinate application for any federal grants or other assistance that may be available to assist the planning and execution of the public safety missions associated with this Executive Order.

III. Duration

This Executive Order shall expire on August 31, 2008, unless extended further by Executive Order.



Given under my hand and
the Executive Seal of the
State of Colorado this 21st
day of August, 2008.

Bill Ritter, Jr.
Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor